

What is claimed is:

1. A method of managing print colors in a process for recording a printing plate on the basis of image data obtained by subjecting multi-value image data to
  - 5 RIP and carrying out printing by supplying ink on said printing plate, said method comprising:
    - a recording step of recording a color chart on a printing plate;
    - a step of determining a printing condition;
    - a printing step of printing said color chart on a printing medium in
      - 10 accordance with said printing condition while using a printing press;
      - a detecting step of detecting a print color on said color chart on said printing medium;
      - a profile data generating step of generating profile data in accordance with printing characteristics of said printing press based upon said print color; and
      - 15 a profile data storage step of storing said profile data in association with said printing condition, said printing condition including at least one of
        - I) an ink condition used in said printing press, and
        - II) a condition of a kind of said printing medium,
    - wherein, when a printing process is newly carried out using said printing
      - 20 press in accordance with said printing condition, a color correction prior to a RIP process is carried out on multi-value image data with reference to said profile data.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein said printing press is operable to form an image on said printing plate being held on a plate cylinder.

3. The method according to claim 2, wherein said printing condition further includes at least one of

- III) a condition of an amount of ink in said printing process, and
- IV) a condition of an amount of damping water.

5

4. A color managing device for managing a print color, which is used in a printing system comprising a printing plate recording device for generating a printing plate on which an image is recorded and a printing press for transferring said image onto a printing medium by supplying ink onto said printing plate, said

10 color managing device comprising:

printing condition setting element setting a printing condition;

color detector detecting a print color of a color chart on a printing medium that has been printed by said printing press;

profile data generator generating profile data in accordance with printing

15 characteristics of said printing press based upon said detected print color; and

profile data storage memory storing said profile data in association of said printing condition, said printing condition including at least one of

I) an ink condition used in said printing press, and

II) a condition of a kind of said printing medium,

20 wherein, when a printing process is newly carried out using said printing press in accordance with said printing condition, a color correction prior to a RIP process is carried out on multi-value image data with reference to said profile data.

5. The managing device according to claim 4, wherein:

25 a color correction for said digital image data is carried out on multi-value

image data prior to said RIP process,

an image data after said color correction is subjected to a RIP-process to obtain binary image data, and

said printing plate is generated based upon said binary image data.

5

6. The managing device according to claim 5, wherein said printing press is operable to form an image on said printing plate being held on a plate cylinder.

7. The managing device according to claim 6, wherein said printing  
10 condition further includes at least one of

III) a condition of an amount of ink in a printing process, and

IV) a condition of an amount of damping water.

8. The managing device according to claim 7, wherein said color detector  
15 includes:

an image-pickup placed in a transport path of said printing medium having been printed or in a discharging section of said printing medium inside said printing press.

20 9. An image data processing device for applying a RIP process to a multi-value image data representing printing contents to obtain binary image data for recording an image on a printing plate to be used in a printing press, said image data processing device comprising:

a storage memory storing profile data suitable for printing characteristics of

25 said printing press with respect to each of a plurality of printing conditions; and

a color converter reading profile data that matches a designated printing condition from said storage memory, and for carrying out a color conversion on said multi-value image data in accordance with said profile data,

where said printing condition includes at least one of

- 5 I) an ink condition used in said printing press, and  
II) a condition of said kind of said printing medium.

10. The image data processing device according to claim 9, wherein said printing condition further includes at least one of

- 10 III) a condition of an amount of ink in a printing process, and  
IV) a condition of an amount of damping water.

11. A data base used for correcting multi-value image data prior to a RIP process in a system for carrying out a printing process using a printing plate, said data base comprising:

- 15 a first storage area for storing a plurality of printing conditions; and  
a second storage area for storing a plurality of elements of profile data in accordance with printing characteristics of said printing press in association with each printing condition,  
20 wherein each printing condition includes at least one of  
I) an ink condition used in said printing press, and  
II) a condition of a kind of said printing medium.